

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/785,052

Examiner

Usman Khan

Applicant(s)

KOJIMA ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/9/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2,5,7,8,10,11 renumbered as 1,2,4,5,3,6.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Regarding objection to specification provided in the previous office action for failing to provide a descriptive title. Applicant has amended the title of the invention to overcome the objection to the specification.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Regarding claims 7, 8, and 11:

In the beginning of each of these claims "**A video camera**" have been amended to **--The video camera--**.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2, 5, 7, 8, 10, and 11 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent **claim 2**, the prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest "A video camera comprising: a camera body unit having at least an image pickup unit and a circuit board; a grip unit having at least a disc drive mechanism; and a rotary mechanism which connects the grip unit rotatably to one side face of the camera body unit, wherein the rotary mechanism connects the grip unit to the camera body unit in such a manner that a diametrical direction of the grip unit is parallel to an optical axis of a camera lens, and the disc drive mechanism has a medium receptacle portion provided in parallel with the circuit board, wherein the grip unit comprises a medium insertion aperture for insertion of a recording medium into the medium receptacle portion and a case unit adapted to expose and shield the medium insertion aperture, the case unit being adapted to slide in a direction parallel to the rotary mechanism."

Regarding independent **claim 5**, the prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest "A video camera comprising: a camera body unit having at least an image pickup unit and a circuit board; a grip unit having at least a disc drive mechanism; and a rotary mechanism which connects the grip unit rotatably to one side face of the camera body unit, wherein the rotary mechanism connects the grip unit to the camera body unit in such a manner that a diametrical direction of the grip unit is parallel to an optical axis of a camera lens, and the disc drive mechanism has a medium receptacle portion provided in parallel with the circuit board wherein a liquid crystal display monitor unit is provided on an opposite side face of the camera body unit in parallel with the optical

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axis of the camera lens, and the liquid crystal display monitor unit is disposed rotatably through an axis vertical to the optical axis of the camera lens, wherein the grip unit is provided on a peripheral surface thereof with a sub-liquid crystal display monitor, the sub-liquid crystal display monitor being adapted to move with rotation of the grip unit, and wherein the grip unit is provided on the peripheral surface thereof with an operating unit, the operating unit being constructed such that, in an open condition of the liquid crystal display monitor unit, an operating function for the liquid crystal display monitor unit is set, while in a closed condition of the liquid crystal display monitor unit, an operating function for the sub-liquid crystal display monitor is set."

Regarding independent **claim 10**, the prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest "A video camera comprising: a camera body unit containing an image pickup unit and a circuit board of various circuits; a rotary grip provided on one side face of the camera body unit so as to be rotatable relative to the camera body unit; a sub-liquid crystal display monitor disposed integrally on a peripheral surface of the rotary grip; and an operating unit disposed integrally on the peripheral surface of the rotary grip, wherein a liquid crystal display monitor unit is provided on an opposite side face of the camera body unit so as to be rotatable in a predetermined angular range from said side face around a vertical shaft parallel to said side face, and wherein, in an abutted state of the liquid crystal display monitor unit against the side face of the camera body unit, a screen display is provided by the liquid crystal display monitor, while in a

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rotated state of the sub-liquid crystal display monitor unit from its position on the side face of the camera body unit, a screen display is provided by the liquid crystal display monitor unit."

Regarding **claims 7, 8, and 11**, these claims are allowed as being dependent from allowed independent claim 10.

Conclusion

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Usman Khan whose telephone number is (571) 270-1131. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thru 6:45-4:15; Fri 6:45-3:15 or Alt. Fri off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Ometz can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Usman Khan
07/18/2007
Patent Examiner
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DAVID OMETZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER